



Criminal Justice Report

Jan – Mar 2011



Prepared by the County Manager's Office

Introduction and Overview

The Board of County Commissioners values the safety of Mecklenburg County residents and documents this as a priority in its 2015 Community Vision. As an organization, Mecklenburg County has specific goals of increasing the safety and security of residents and increasing the efficiency and effectiveness of criminal justice services.

In May 2008, the Board created the Justice and Public Safety Task Force to review the criminal justice system and make recommendations to restore its functional effectiveness. The Board-appointed Justice and Public Safety Task Force produced its final report in November 2008. The report included 16 prioritized recommendations designed to make an effective impact on crime and justice-related activities in Mecklenburg County. The Task Force's fourth recommendation called for the creation of a criminal justice system report that would provide transparent and easily accessible information to the public regarding the efficiency and effectiveness of the criminal justice system. This comprehensive report has been produced to give residents a tool to track the progress of the coordinated effort of the County to increase the efficiency, effectiveness, and accountability of the criminal justice system.

The framework for this and future quarterly and annual versions of **Mecklenburg County Criminal Justice Matters** will examine the major elements of the criminal justice system, including:

- Law Enforcement
- Jail
- Pretrial Services
- Courts
- Prosecution
- Public Defense
- Alternatives to Incarceration
- Community Based Programs

Quarterly reports will highlight key events that have taken place within the system and track the system's progress by providing measures that indicate how each area within the system is performing compared to the same time period the previous year. The annual report will summarize the progress the criminal justice system has made during the year towards achieving outcome goals within each of the six areas. The annual report will vary slightly from the quarterly reports, as it will be focused on specific outcome goals for each area within the criminal justice system.

Each edition of **Mecklenburg County Criminal Justice Matters** will be posted and updated at www.charmeck.org/Departments/County+Managers+Office/CriminalJustice/Home.htm to allow residents and stakeholders to conveniently track progress and share information about the efficiency and effectiveness of the Mecklenburg County criminal justice system.



	Apr - Jun	Jul - Sep	Oct - Dec	Jan - Mar	YTD Average	Reference
Law Enforcement						
Total UCR Part I Reports	11,081	12,108	11,516	8,687	10,848	Fig. 1
UCR Rate (Reports/100k Citizens)	1,150	1,257	1,195	944	1,137	
Jail						
Arrests Processed	10,681	10,901	10,274	12,103	10,990	
Average Daily Population	2,226	2,272	2,228	2,101	2,207	Fig. 2
Average Length of Stay (days)	18.3	18.7	19.3	15.7	18	
% Pretrial Population	68%	68%	68%	67%	68%	Fig. 3
% Sentenced Population	12%	11%	11%	11%	11%	Fig. 3
% Federal Population	21%	21%	21%	22%	21%	Fig. 3
Pretrial Services						
Number Interviewed	NA	1,579	1,559	2,053	1,730	
Number Released	1,075	359 ¹	250	289	493	
Average Supervised Daily	1,933	1,564	946	645	1,272	
Revocations	116	81	58	90	86	
Magistrate						
Number Charges Recorded	19,754	20,343	15,648	19,106	18,713	
% Charges Given Secured Bond	69%	73%	81%	82%	77%	
% Charges Probable Cause Found	94%	97%	98%	98%	97%	
Superior Court						
Felony Cases Filed	2,581	2,227	2,317	2,430	2,389	Fig. 5
Felony Cases Disposed	2,286	2,740	2,206	2,706	2,485	Fig. 5
Felony Clearance Rate	89%	123%	95%	111%	105%	Fig. 5
% Cases Pending <=365 Days	78%	78%	76%	75%	77%	Fig. 4
% Cases Disposed <=365 Days	80%	76%	79%	79%	79%	Fig. 4
Felony Trials	52	69	54	52	57	
Average Time To Disposition [†]	299	256	245	250	263	
Median Time to Disposition [†]	176	186	176	178	179	
District Court						
Non-DMV Criminal Cases Filed	15,557	15,635	14,539	14,531	15,066	Fig. 6
Non-DMV Criminal Cases Disposed	13,907	15,316	14,509	15,196	14,732	Fig. 6
Non-DMV Criminal Clearance Rate	89%	98%	100%	105%	98%	Fig. 6
% Cases Pending <=365 Days	98%	96%	95%	95%	96%	
% Cases Disposed <=365 Days	99%	96%	97%	97%	97%	
Non-DMV Criminal Cases Trials	293	343	266	323	306	
Average Time To Disposition [†]	116	112	110	112	113	
Median Time to Disposition [†]	70	70	71	74	71	
Prosecutor						
Dismissals (with and without leave)	1,275	1,396	1,202	1,398	1,318	Fig. 7
Guilty Pleas Accepted	943	1,261	925	1,240	1,092	Fig. 7
Dismissals following Deferred Prosecution	3	6	7	4	5	
Public Defender						
New Cases Assigned	5,049	6,868	5,400	5,604	5,730	Fig. 8
Cases Closed	5,049	5,830	5,325	5,192	5,349	Fig. 8
Cases per Attorney ²	90	116	90	93	97	
Cases Assigned to Private Attorney	4,719	4,708	4,304	3,425	4,289	
Probation						
Admitted	879	1,140	810	860	922	Fig. 9
Average Population	7,677	7,870	7,996	7,943	7,872	Fig. 9
Probation Violations	1,040	1,269	1,083	1,142	1,134	
Electronic Monitoring						
Average Supervised Daily CMPD	-	226	274	279	260	
% Successful Terminations CMPD	-	-	98%	96%	97%	
Structured Day						
Admitted	17	25	32	46	30	
Average Supervised Daily	84	91	88	113	94	
% Successful Completing	-	50%	31%	12%	31%	
S.T.E.P. Courts						
Admitted	81	62	57	48	62	
Total Served	393	344	286	288	328	
Successfully Completing Program	51%	51%	55%	56%	53	

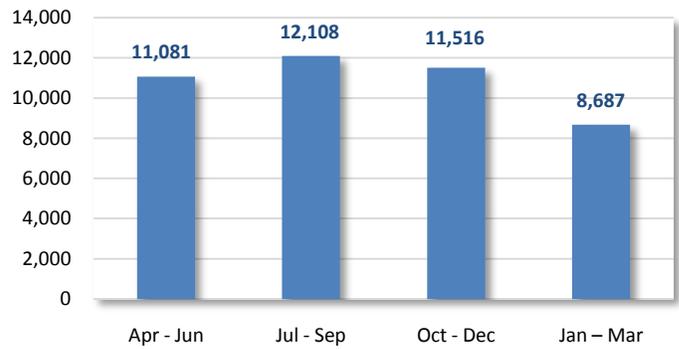
¹ The decline in releases is a result of policy changes implemented July 2010 restricting eligibility for participation to misdemeanor and traffic offenses. Eligibility criteria are expected to expand in late 2010.

² Number New Cases Assigned / Number of Attorneys

[†] Data incomplete or unavailable at time of report.

UCR Part I reports declined 11 percent from same period of last year.

Figure 1. UCR Part I Reports Received



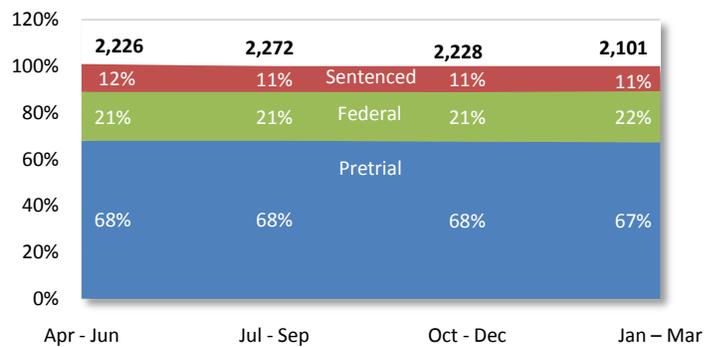
Arrests increased 18 percent from the same period of last year.

Figure 2. Arrests Processed



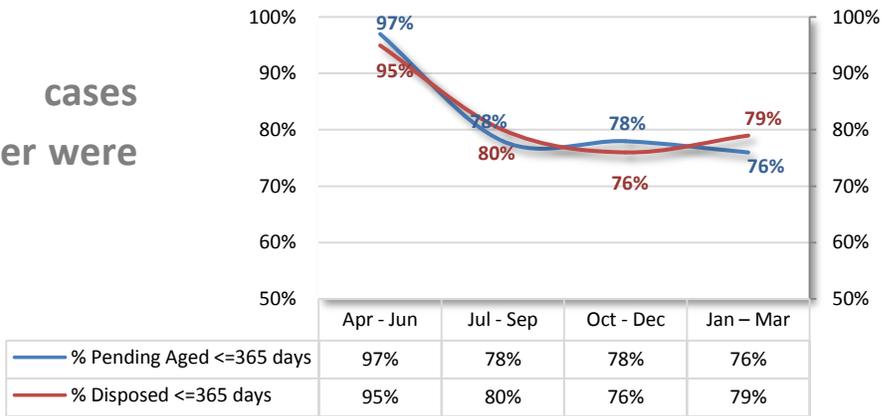
The jail's average daily population was 2,101 – a decline of 3 percent from the same period last year.

Figure 3. Average Daily Jail Population



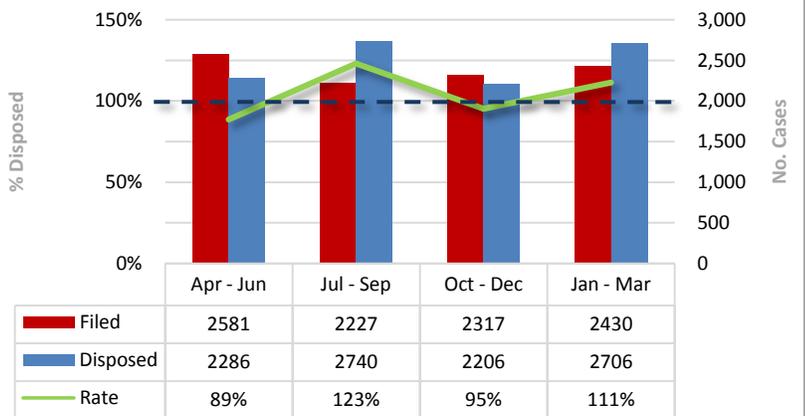
79 percent of felony cases disposed during the quarter were aged 365 days or less.

Figure 4. Pending and Disposition Times- Felonies



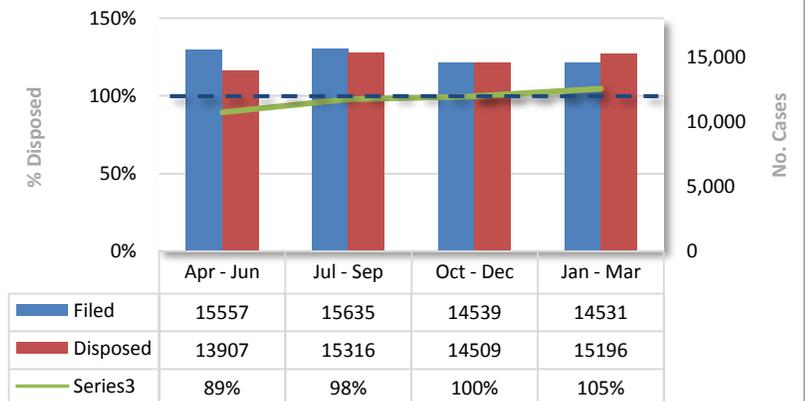
Clearance rate¹ for Superior Court felony cases exceeded 100 percent during the quarter.

Figure 5. Clearance Rate- Superior Court



Clearance rate¹ for non-motor vehicle criminal cases exceeded 100 percent during the quarter.

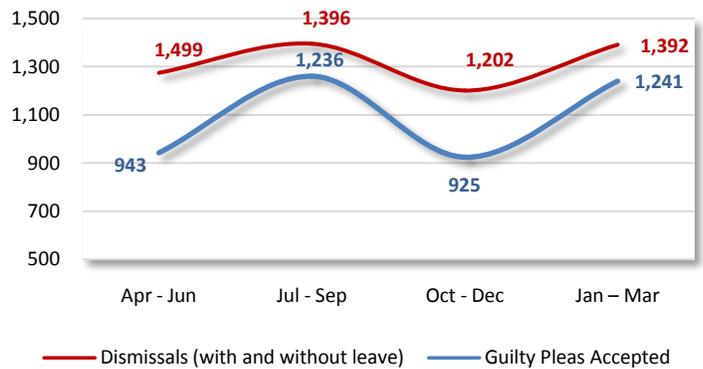
Figure 6. Clearance Rate- District Court



1. Clearance Rate is calculated using the National Center for State Courts recommendation *number of dispositions divided by the number of filings.*

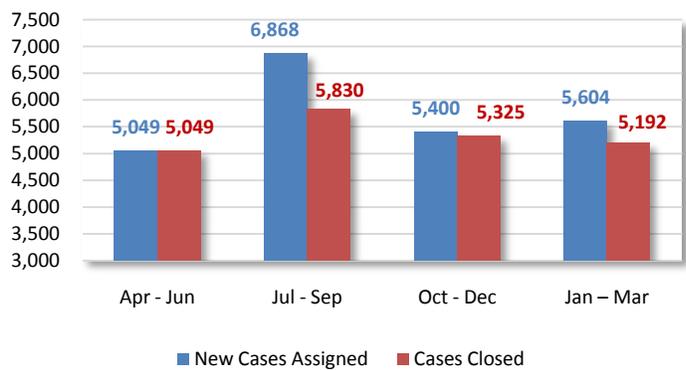
In the past year, approximately 1.3 charges were dismissed per guilty plea accepted.

Figure 7. District Attorney



Overall, cases were closed at a rate of 93 percent of new filings.

Figure 8. Public Defender



The Community Corrections population increased 3 percent from the same period of the previous year.

Figure 9. Community Corrections

